

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00384 151049Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /070 W

-----151153Z 037591 /20

R 151015Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8790

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 0384

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, IS, JO

SUBJ: WEST BANK REACTION TO CARTER STATEMENTS

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENTS ON THE MIDDLE EAST MARCH 9 HAVE BEEN REPORTED PROMINENTLY IN EAST JERUSALEM PRESS. EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS BEEN CAUTIOUS; PREVAILING PUBLIC SENTIMENT THUS FAR TAKES ITS CUE FROM EGYPT. PRIVATELY, WEST BANK MODERATES, AT LEAST, ARE INTERESTED AND HOPEFUL WHILE MAIN-STREAM LEADERS ARE PRE-OCCUPIED OR DEFERENTIAL TO PLO. END SUMMARY.

2. AL QUDS, MARCH 10, BANNERS UPI STORY FROM WASHINGTON: "CARTER SUGGESTS MINOR ADJUSTMENTS IN '67 BORDERS," "AMERICAN PRESIDENT: MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS WILL BE LONG AND TEDIOUS." SUBSEQUENT STORIES REPORT ISRAELI UNEASE AND EGYPTIAN RESERVATIONS.

3. EDITORIAL OPINION HAS BEEN CAUTIOUS. AL QUDS,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 JERUSA 00384 151049Z

(MODERATE AND PRO-JORDAN) MARCH 10, INTERPRETS CARTER'S INSISTENCE ON "SLIGHT" ADJUSTMENTS AS A REJECTION OF ISRAELI DEMANDS FOR SUBSTANTIAL BORDER CHANGES AND NOTES, WITHOUT COMMENT, CARTER'S DISTINCTION BETWEEN "DEFENSIBLE BORDERS" AND SOVEREIGN BORDERS. CARTER'S FAILURE TO ADDRESS THE PALESTINIANS AS THE HEART OF THE PROBLEM IS CRITICIZED, AND THE ABSENCE OF A STATEMENT ON JERUSALEM IS NOTED.

IN GENERAL, NONCOMMITAL, AL QUDS ENDORSES EGYPT'S POSITION (AS REPORTED HERE) THAT MINOR ADJUSTMENTS CAN BE MADE IN THE '67 BORDERS IF THEY ARE MADE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE LINE. (COMMENT: AL QUDS' REPORT OF EGYPT'S FLEXIBILITY PRECEDED SADAT'S ADDRESS TO PALESTINIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL MARCH 12 IN WHICH HE STRESSED NOT A SINGLE INCH OF LAND WOULD BE CEDED IN NEGOTIATIONS.)

4. AL FAJR (PRO-PLO) HAS ALSO REPORTED CARTER'S STATEMENTS PROMINENTLY, BUT HAS REFRAINED FROM DIRECT COMMENT.

5. MODERATES ON THE WEST BANK, E.G. NABLUS' HIKMAT AL MASRI, BETHLEHEM'S FREIJ AND JERUSALEM'S ANWAR NUSEIBEH, ARE INTERESTED AND RECEPTIVE TO CARTER'S VIEWS ON FINAL BORDERS. THEY DIFFER, HOWEVER, ON THE "WARMTH" OF THE PEACE WITH FREIJ ENVISAGING NORMALIZATION AND AL MASRI INSISTENT ON A DISTANCE.

6. THE POPULAR LEADERSHIP OF THE WEST BANK - NABLUS' MAYOR SHAKA', HEBRON'S QAWASMI, TULKARM'S HANNUN - HAVE NOT AS YET RESPONDED TO CARTER'S THOUGHTS ON BORDERS. IN THE RECENT PAST, THEY HAVE RESISTED ATTEMPTS (MADE BY RAMALLAH'S KHALAF) TO ACCEPT '67 BORDERS EVEN WITHOUT ADJUSTMENTS. AS STATED IN THEIR MEMO TO UNSG WALDHEIM, THEY ENDORSE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "NUCLEUS" OF A PALESTINIAN STATE ON LAND FROM WHICH THE ISRAELIS WITHDRAW.

7. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE WEST BANK'S LEADERS AND PRESS HAVE NOT WELCOMED PRESIDENT CARTER'S IDEAS WITH OPEN ARMS, NEITHER HAVE THEY REJECTED THEM OUTRIGHT.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 JERUSA 00384 151049Z

WELL-ESTABLISHED MODERATES ARE INTERESTED IN PRIVATE, AND EVEN HARDLINERS ARE AT LEAST SENSITIVE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE POSITIONS OF THE ARAB STATES. PRE-OCCUPIED WITH DAY-TO-DAY PROBLEMS AND DEMONSTRATIONS, THE MAINSTREAM LEADERS DO NOT NORMALLY FOCUS ON THE QUESTION OF BORDERS AS MUCH AS THE US POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE PLO WHICH THEY CONTINUE TO CRITICIZE. POPULAR OPINION LIKELY TO FOLLOW PLO'S LEAD.
NEWLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOUNDARY DETERMINATION, PRESS COMMENTS, PALESTINIANS, PEACE PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977JERUSA00384
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770088-0658
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770359/aaaabzye.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 912bf8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3106896
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEST BANK REACTION TO CARTER STATEMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, IS, JO, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/912bf8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009